

USSN 09/410,367
Attorney Docket No. 01413.0009-00000

REMARKS

By this Amendment, Applicants have canceled claims 1-67 and presented new claims 68-82. Applicants reserve the right to pursue the subject matter of the canceled claims in this or other applications.

This Amendment introduces no new matter. The new claims are supported by the specification including the original claims and the material incorporated by reference to U.S. application No. 09/409,260 (now allowed) at page 2, lines 10-14; page 14, lines 7-11; and page 20, lines 5-7, and U.S. application No. 08/713,313 (now issued as U.S. Patents Nos. 6,484,168 and 6,772,170) at page 2, lines 18-19; page 24, lines 2-6; and page 31, lines 21-23. For example, with regard to the transformation operations performed on the text data type, steps (a) - (d) are identical to steps a) - d) in claim 1 of U.S. Patent No. 6,772,170. Furthermore, steps (i) - (iii) related to the transformation operations on the biopolymer sequence data type are substantially identical to the first three steps recited in claim 14 as allowed in U.S. application No. 09/409,260. The set of the allowed claims from application No. 09/409,260 is submitted as a part of an Information Disclosure Statement filed with this Amendment. Should the Examiner require the Applicants to substitute the reference in the specification to unpublished application No. 09/409,260 with a reference to the corresponding U.S. Patent, Applicants request that this requirement be held in abeyance until after an allowable subject matter is indicated by the Examiner.

Applicants note that U.S. Patents 6,484,168 and 6,772,170, application No. 09/409,260, and the present application were owned by or subject to an obligation

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of assignment to Battelle Memorial Institute at the time the present invention was made.

Applicants and their representative thank Examiner Dastouri for conducting an in-person interview on October 12, 2004. At the interview, claim 1 was discussed in view of pending rejections. Examiner Dastouri indicated that identifying different transformation operations on disparate data types and/or incorporating the biopolymer sequence data type as a required element would overcome the pending rejections. In this Amendments, Applicants presented claims that meet this recommendation. None of the references previously cited by the Examiner teaches or suggests a combination of disparate data types, wherein one or more data types are transformed according to steps (a) - (e) and/or steps (i) - (iii) recited in claims 68-82.

To assist the Examiner, Applicants provide a table in Appendix A which highlights specific data type combinations claimed. Should the Examiner have any questions regarding this Amendment, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned at (617) 462-1626.

Please charge any required fees to deposit account 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: January 27, 2005

By: 

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